

CHAPTER IV.

A Matchless Opportunity

To try to demonstrate whether it is possible to take men of different races, tongues, histories, customs and ideals, to mould them into one nation in a land of freedom is, in my humble judgment, one of the greatest experiments that has ever been attempted. Canada has undertaken this experiment when she opened her gates to the different people from all over the Globe. Viewed from certain angles, the experiment seems to have been highly successful. From other angles, it seems to have involved Canada in many difficulties.

As I see it to-day, there is clear evidence of a spirit of social unrest and agitation, for revolt is heard at many a street corner. Many of these strangers—the adults in particular—do not know how to read nor write and as I have observed there are not many organizations engaged in earnest efforts to teach these people English and to acquaint them with Canadian ideals. Here then is this great task left almost entirely to the Christian churches who sincerely desire to see these people become good Canadians. And the greatest possibility for Canada lies in unifying these people in the fellowship of Christ and the Christian brotherhood. It is one of the most challenging tasks that has faced the Christian church in any land or in any age.

Here is a tremendous task and a matchless opportunity for the Baptists who desire to make these people intelligent and loyal citizens and to bring them to the knowledge of Jesus Christ, the Saviour of mankind.

FIRST, the Baptists have the opportunity of preaching the Gospel to these strangers. Due to the fact that most of these people are Roman or Greek Catholics, somebody might say, "Why those churches have already preached and are preaching the Gospel to them." But you know very well that is not so, because the Roman church clergy read the Bible in Latin in all their churches and in order to understand it, one must be a Latin scholar. What an absurdity! Then again, it would seem that the Greek Orthodox clergy chant the Bible as fast as they can in order that no-